

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 6, 9, 14, 17 and 22 have been amended herewith. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

I. 35 U.S.C. § 103, Obviousness

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Savill (Where can I find a Unix su like utility?) and in view of Wu (U.S. Patent Number 5,774,551), hereinafter referred to as Wu. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

With respect to Claim 1, it is urged that none of the cited references teach or suggest the claimed feature of "generating a second security context in response to a second user authentication, wherein said second security context is an aggregate of said first security context and a security context corresponding to an identity in said second user authentication". As can be seen, an item is generating (a second security context), and this generated item is an aggregate of two items (the first security context that was generated, and the security context that corresponds to an identity in the second user authentication). In rejecting Claim 1, the Examiner cites Savill as teaching the two security contexts, and cites Wu as teaching aggregating these two security contexts. Applicants urge that this is error, as if Savill is being relied upon as teaching the two security contexts, it is not possible for Wu to teach aggregating these security contexts as it doesn't teach such security contexts (which are instead alleged to be taught by Savill).

Still further with respect to Claim 1, the Wu passage cited by the Examiner as teaching the claimed aggregation describes stacking of multiple account management services (col. 6, lines 63-65; col. 8, lines 17-21), these services being described to be such things as system entry services, authentication services, account services, password services, and session services (col. 5, lines 7-11). Each of these services provides particular functionality in managing user accounts (col. 5, lines 12-14). This stacking of services that can be invoked is not related to aggregating security contexts that are generated in response to user authentication, as they pertain to the *actual authentication service that is to be invoked*. Quite simply, Claim 1 is directed to aggregating things that are generated in response to user authentications, whereas Wu's stacking

is with respect to how to call the authentication process itself. Thus, it is further urged that Claim 1 has been erroneously rejected, due to the above described missing claimed features¹.

It is further shown that Wu's authentication services can not be equated with the claimed security contexts, as the security contexts are generated in response to authentication. Wu's authentication services, stacked or otherwise, are not generated in response to a user authentication, but rather are *pre-existing services* (Figure 1, elements 109). It is thus urged that the Examiner is erroneously equating the authentication services as taught by Wu with the claimed security contexts, as the claimed security contexts are generated in response to a user authentication, and therefore they cannot be the authentication itself. Thus, Claim 1 is further shown to have been erroneously rejected.

The claimed second security context - which is generated by aggregating (1) the first security context, and (2) a security context corresponding to an identity in said second user authentication - advantageously provides for finer granularity in access authorization structures without exacerbating the complications associated with multiple user logins. This is achievable as authenticated identities are aggregated. A security context is generated in response to a first user authentication. A second security context is generated based on an identity in a second user authentication, and this second security context is an aggregated security context generated as an aggregation of both the first security context and the security context corresponding to this second user authentication identity. The aggregation of security contexts advantageously provides the finer granularity in access authorization structures (Specification page 14).

Applicants initially traverse the rejection of Claims 2-8 for reasons given above with respect to Claim 1 (of which Claims 2-8 depend upon).

Further with respect to Claim 3, it is urged that since Wu doesn't teach the claimed security context (since Savill is being relied upon for teaching the claimed security context), it necessarily follows that Wu cannot teach pushing such missing security context on a stack to save it. The passage cited by the Examiner in rejecting Claim 3 (Col. 6, lines 64-67 and Col. 7, lines 1-4) makes no mention of any stack, and makes no mention of any type of pushing

¹ To establish prima facie obviousness of a claimed invention, all of the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. MPEP 2143.03. See also, *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 580 (C.C.P.A. 1974) (emphasis added by Applicants). If the examiner fails to establish a prima facie case, the rejection is improper and will be overturned. *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 1074, 5 USPQ2d 1596, 1598 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

operation with respect to such (missing) stack. It is thus further shown that Claim 3 has been erroneously rejected, as there are missing claimed features not taught or suggested by the cited references.

Further with respect to Claim 6, such claim recites a step of "reverting to said first security context in response to a user logoff". The Wu reference, which is cited by the Examiner in rejecting Claim 6, is keen on providing a single user login and a single user logout, such that a user need only remember or provide a single authentication token even though multiple authentication services are supported (col. 3, line 66 – col. 4, line 24). Importantly, all of the user's credentials are removed during a single logout process (col. 4, lines 3-7). Thus, Wu does not teach any type of reversion to a first security context in response to a user logout, as all user credentials are removed/destroyed in response to a user logout. Thus, Claim 6 is further shown to have been erroneously rejected, as there are additional claimed features not taught or suggested by the cited references.

Applicants traverse the rejection of Claims 9-24 for similar reasons to those given above with respect to Claim 1.

Applicants further traverse the rejection of Claims 11 and 19 for similar reasons to the further reasons given above with respect to Claim 3.

Applicants further traverse the rejection of Claims 14 (and dependent Claim 15) and 22 (and dependent Claim 23) for similar reasons to the further reasons given above with respect to Claim 6.

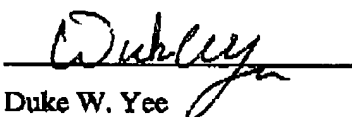
Therefore, the rejection of Claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 has been overcome.

II. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over the cited references and is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,


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